



# Majang New Testament

## The Gospel – Justification by Faith

The Apostle Paul declares in the book of Romans that salvation is “to the Jew first and also to the Gentile” (Romans 1:16). As Gentiles began coming to faith in Christ, a dilemma arose as to their relation to the Jewish religion, circumcision and the Law.

A number of Jewish believers felt that, as in the past, a Christian convert must accept the Jewish customs and insisted that circumcision was necessary for salvation. Paul, however, clearly demonstrates in the book of Galatians that justification in God’s sight is by faith in Christ and not by keeping the law. Any other message was a different gospel.

Paul felt so strongly about this truth that in one verse (Galatians 2:16) he states it clearly three times: “[We] know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.”

- **Pray that many Majang people will be justified in God’s sight as they place their faith in Jesus Christ.**

## Good News, Bad News

The Majang team has made great progress lately on three epistles: Galatians, Ephesians and Colossians. They’ve completed the team-check of Ephesians and Colossians and made back-translations of all three books to give to the consultant.

The bad news is that the consultant has had so much work to do that he was only able to spend one week with the team to check all three books. During their time together, he completed this step for Colossians and also checked half of Ephesians. The book of Galatians remains to be checked.

The new advisor, James, also worked with the translators for a short time on Galatians, Ephesians and Colossians. The team along with the advisor and consultant are now discussing their schedules to see how they can arrange more time together.

- **Pray for the upcoming consultant-check of Galatians and the rest of Ephesians.**
- **Pray that more people will step up to the plate to train as consultants to help carry the heavy workload.**



- **Location: Ethiopia**
- **Number of Speakers: 40,000**
- **Year Project Began: 2008**
- **Expected Completion Date: 2014**



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### What's Up Next?

The Majang translators haven't yet finished drafting 1 and 2 Corinthians. They've decided to work together to draft these books rather than make individual drafts. They're also making a second draft of 1 and 2 Timothy, which they'd first drafted last year.

- **Pray for ongoing spiritual growth and physical health for the Majang translators.**
- **Praise God that a local church is taking responsibility for the administration of the translation project.**
- **Thank the Lord that the "Talking Bibles" consisting of the four Gospels in audio format continue to be used by Majang speakers.**

#### Six Steps of Translation

1. **First Draft:** translators analyze what a passage says and produce a first draft.
2. **Team Check:** translators check each verse for accuracy and clarity.
3. **Community Testing:** translators share drafted Scripture with community members to test how well it communicates.
4. **Back Translation:** translators translate the draft "back" into a major language for a non-native consultant.
5. **Consultant Check:** a consultant checks the translation with the team to make sure expected standards are met.
6. **Proofread:** translators rigorously proofread the final draft for errors before publication.

MAJANG NT PROJECT UPDATE—2

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